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sect had a just and full number of prompt disciples all over England, which would offer no worse sacrifice upon our publick Altars, then Honey and Wax, the good example of Piety, Devotion, Arts and Industry.

An Extract of a Latin Letter, written by the learned Signior Malpighi to the Publisher, concerning some Anatomical Observations, about the Structure of the Lungs of Frogs, Tortoises, &c. and perfecter Animals; as also the Texture of the Spleen, &c.

Desideratissimus de Respiratione Doctissimi Thrustonii libellus tandem ad meas devenit manus; ubi propugnata vidi meam, de Pulmonum substantia *, sententiam. Quapropter Te anxie rogo, ut ipsi meo nomine officiosam dicas salutem, plurimasque eidem gratias agas pro spontanea & honorifica meorum dictorum tutela.

* Vid. D. Thruston. in Diatriba de Respirationis Usu primario, p. 42. & p. 143. 144.

Miratus sum valdè, Animadversionum Authori in Testudinum, Lacertarum & Ranarum Sectionibus non occurrissè commercium inter Bronchia, & Pulmones, quos Vesiculas, à laxitate exterioris Pulmonum membranæ obortas, vocat; cùm sanè immisâ in Tracheam fistulâ, & simul insufflato Aere, Pulmones, eidem Tracheæ appensi, hinc inde circa Cor turgent; quod & ad libitum animalis frequenter accidit: Hi etiam, dum Aere turgent, si filo innodentur ut siccescant, secti patenter oculis Cellulas & Vesiculas, evidenter membraneas, exhibent. Et licèt in Ranis brevis sit Bronchiorum processus, à Larynge tamen bini ductus, semi-circularibus aliquot annulis conflari, in membraneas vesiculas hiant, & atque ita succedit Inspiratio & Exspiratio. At in Testudine, Lacertis & similibus, oblonga Trachea in binos subdivisa ramos, Aerem pulmonaribus Vesiculis subministrat. Scio, in Ranis, propè os, hinc inde binas interdum turgentes erumpere vesiculas (procul tamen à Pulmonibus,) quæ buccæ sunt Appendices, & Aere interdum, à pulmonibus in oris cavitationem Expiratione propulso, foras exilire.

Circa

Circa exaratos Pulmones reticularem Musculum locari scias, cujus carneos plexus, sinus, & vesiculas ambientes aliàs ruditer delineavi. Hujus mirabilis contextus patet in Ranis, & Lacertis præcipuè; nam multiplices carnei lacerti per longum producuntur, & transversaliter elongatis fibris invicem continuantur; intermediæ verò areæ reticularibus carneis plexibus ulterius occupantur, non absimili ritu ac in Arborum foliis accidit: Retis autem enarrata hæc minora spatia rectis postremo fibris, quasi brevibus tendinibus, pervaduntur. Mirabilis hic Musculus non exteriorem tantum Pulmonum ambit regionem, sed interiores quasunque vesiculas & sinus circumdat, ita ut suo motu singulas pulmonis partes comprimendo, Expirationem Sonumque promoveat. Hæc eadem structura in pulmonibus Perfectorum animalium proportionaliter observatur, & in Agnorum extremis præcipuè lobulis, Aere turgidis, & adhuc mollibus, patet.

Hujus occasione communicandum Tibi duxi, Lienis fibras, quæ tot ingenia torfere, nequaquam nerveas (quod & aliquando ipse autumavi) sed carneas esse, ita ut ex carneo exteriori involucro, & productis transversaliter fibris, mirabilis fiat Musculus, Lienis cellulas comprimens, quo sanguis per Splenicum ramum propellatur non absimili structura ac ritu, qualis in grandioribus Cordis auriculis observatur: Carnei etenim lacerti, per transversum ducti, suarum fibrarum implicatione Rete efformant, membraneas cellulas comprimens, suisque extremis finibus, mirabiliter productis, carneum involucrum constituunt.

Parum absimili structura Equinos præcipuè Testes Natura ditavit; interior quippe ipsorum tunica Carneas fibras, seu extensum musculum, in sui medullio, unà cum varicosis vasis continet, quæ diversas inclinationes, ut in Liene, habentes, per transversum productæ, & reticulariter implicitæ, Intestinulorum congeriem firmant & comprimunt. Pauca hæc & inordinata in mei amoris & obsequii testimonium habeas, precor. Vale, Dabam Bononiæ die 20. Februarii 1671.